

Bob Bermowitz provided an overview of the RCC Program. He noted that the various RCC research programs were peer reviewed, that each RCC had developed a 3-year strategic plan, and that the RCC program was fully integrated into the NWS. For FY 94, initiatives include climate services, applied research, database development, and participation in the SOLRAD program.

Joe Friday, Director of the National Weather Service, spoke on the NWS Modernization. He noted that the modernization, which began in 1978, was a good testimony to perseverance. The first dollars for NEXRAD were provided in 1978 while the modernization plan was not approved until 1989. He recounted a recent press conference that highlighted NEXRAD as producing the most significant improvement in short-range forecasting during the past 30+ years. While the NEXRAD hardware made an important contribution, a solid training program was essential to achieve the goals of modernization along with the realization that modernization may require 10 years before the full dividends are realized. Dr. Friday noted that the Probability of Detection in Oklahoma rose from 0.5 to 0.9 in 1991 (national average is 0.4) while the Oklahoma False Alarm Ratio fell from 0.8 (the national average) to 0.3 in 1991. The next two NEXRAD sites (Sterling and Melbourne) also have duplicated the Oklahoma results noted in the Press Conference.

George Cry, Hydrologist in Charge of the River Forecast Center in Slidell, described RFC operations in a modernized and restructured National Weather Service.

In addition, Phil Pasteris spoke on the SCS and its climate mission while Roger Tucker reviewed activities underway with the U.S. Forest Service.

Annual Business Meeting

The minutes from the 1991 Annual Meeting were approved after minor amendments were discussed and the Treasurer's report was accepted and approved.

Discussion moved to a proposed article for the Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society regarding the Centennial celebration. The group agreed that a summary article should be tabled for the time being.

On the matter of "official policy statements," discussion began on the matter of endorsing the concept of modernizing the co-operative observer network and on endorsing ASOS. After much discussion, the group agreed to prepare a draft narrative of the proposed "statements," send them to the Executive Committee for corrections before transmitting to any professional society. In addition, it was agreed that NOAA Administrator Knauss should receive both statements and that the ASOS statement should be sent to the FAA as well. The question then arose regarding the input of SCs who were not at the Annual Meeting. The question was not resolved.

The Helmet Landsberg Award, given twice before, was approved for presentation to Tom Karl at the 1993 Annual Meeting (in the form of a plaque).

The Committee on Rules presented several amendments to the current constitution. All five amendments

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submitted were approved by a voice vote.

The site of the 1993 Annual Meeting was chosen to be in Idaho with Idaho SC Myron Molnau serving as the local host.

Kelly Redmond noted that he will represent the AASC at an upcoming meeting of Agricultural Engineers.

New Associate Members that were approved: Howard Johnson, Jeff Andreson, Arthur DeGaetano, Greg Johnson, Bert Tanner, and Gregory Faiers.

As a final action, the AASC membership extended a special thanks to Kentucky SC Glenn Conner when it approved the Executive Order below:

Proclamation

Whereas our host has acted like a Kentucky Gentleman and has maintained his composure for three days in the face of contemptuous climatologists;

Whereas he recognized the age and vitality of the senior members of the group by holding the Annual Meeting in a great place;

Whereas he showed extreme sensitivity to our waist lines by arranging record levels of cholesterol and calories; and

Whereas he arranged for cool, cloudy weather to "cover up" the effects of the dew point in Kentucky in August, now therefore,

The AASC extends its special thanks to Glenn Conner, Kentucky

State Climatologist, for hosting the 1992 Annual Meeting.

Storm Water Permit Applications And Rainfall Event Statistics

The phone is answered in the State Climatologist office and the question is asked: "How can I get data for a storm water permit application for EPA?" If this scenario sounds familiar and you need to find a quick answer for your customer, The Rainfall Event Statistics data set available from the National Climatic Data Center (NCDC) can help you.

Origins

A set of statistics summarizing nationwide hourly precipitation data was prepared by Pete Steurer of the NCDC in 1986 under a contract with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The results were summarized in a report, "Climatic Data Summaries." A computer program which extracted data from NCDC's hourly precipitation magnetic tapes (TD-3240) and computed a set of 26 statistics which met selected criteria for 3,225 stations was developed for the project. The criteria required a station to have at least ten years of data for each set of monthly statistics.

There are two types of hourly reporting rain gauges. Each records different measurement resolutions. One type is the weighing or recording gauge which records to the nearest hundredth of an inch. The second type is the Fischer-Porter gauge which records to the nearest tenth of an inch. Since the 1960s many of